

**A USER INTERFACE OF A KEYPAD ENTRY SYSTEM
FOR KOREAN TEXT INPUT**

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

- The present invention is directed to data entry keys (128) of a keypad entry system for entry of Korean text to a portable electronic device (100). The data entry keys include ten or more keys arranged in an ordered array in which each key being associated with a numeric digit (keys "1" through "9" and "0"), a phonetic consonant (302 through 328) and a phonetic vowel (402 through 420). Preferably, the phonetic consonants and the phonetic vowels are Korean Jamos symbols used to generate Korean Hangul characters. All keys of the data entry keys include a non-aspiration consonant (330), and four keys of the data entry keys include an aspiration consonant (332) in addition to the non-aspiration consonant. The non-aspiration and aspiration consonants are grouped based on similarity in pronunciation.